

Testimony of Robert Lundahl

July 7, 2010

Robert Lundahl, Film Maker, Blythe, California.

I am honored to provide testimony to the CEC regarding facts on the ground which I have observed related to sacred site protection on, near, and encompassing the Next Era Genesis solar project proposed for siting at Ford Dry Lake in the Lower Colorado Basin.

1. The area encompassing the Ford Dry Lake site is bounded by several distinct areas and features sacred to the Indigenous peoples of the Colorado River, primarily Ute-Aztec peoples. In filming the documentary project called "Solar Gold," about the rush to build large Solar Concentrators in the desert, I toured the proposed Genesis site with engineers from Next Era and Tetra Tech, representatives of the Sierra Club and members of La Cuna De Atzlan Sacred Site Protection Circle in January of this year. Yesterday I flew over the desert outside Blythe, California and returned to take GPS readings of sites and features. These experiences have provided an overview of the area.

2. Desert intaglios are present in the area in great concentrations. I have seen figures including terraced "steps", "wind rows", "circles", anthropographic forms and others, often correlating to petroglyph images that are present in the general area.

3. These glyphs align with features and images seen in the mountains, with mountain passes, trails and springs over the entire region. A geoglyph figure known as the compass, 33, 37' 43 N 114, 45' 10 W, points to magnetic north, and to Mitlan, or Topock maze near Topock, AZ, where, according to oral histories,

1 the spirits repose. Extending south this line projects to a feature known as the
2 chair or Throne of Quatzequatl at [REDACTED]. The sight lines from the chair
3 extend to Corn Springs to the W in line with the Sun's position at the equinox--
4 Sunrise, Chair, Corn Springs, and roughly transverse the Ford Dry Lake Site.
5 Oral histories refer to the geoglyphs in the area as "The footsteps of Creator on
6 the land." The image of a large footprint is present at the same location as the
7 Compass. Another example of the alignment of features and geo glyphs is
8 exemplified by the figure of Tosco, in the form of Creator descending from
9 Tammoanchan (the tree of life), as described in the Florentine Codex, recorded
10 by the Spanish, Bernardino de Sahagún between approximately 1540 and 1585
11 (33 40' 06N, 114, 42' 22 W). The mountain may be seen in the distance.

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13 4. Trails linking McCoy Springs and the sites of thousands of petroglyphs at
14 that location, with Corn Springs, referred to in various tourist and travel
15 documents as a site used and inhabited by indigenous peoples, also transverse
16 the site.

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18 5. Major trails from the Blythe Intaglios to the East link on the site with trails to
19 the North and to McCoy Springs and the McCoy Springs petroglyph site.

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21 6. Figures visible in the mountain features at different times of day, which
22 surround the Ford Dry Lake site correspond to images present in the Aztec
23 calendar. The Aztec calendar records 104,000 years of recorded human history
24 through pictures and glyphs. It is the oldest relic available describing the
25 Creation. The peoples of the Colorado River, Arizona, and Utah refer to the
26 events, images, time keeping and concepts of the Aztec calendar in their oral
27 history.

28
29 7. Researchers indicate the Aztec people migrated to Tenochtitlan in Mexico
30 City from the Northwest. This origin site is known as Atzlan. It is referred to in the
31 Florentine Codex. Oral histories, features, glyphs, petroglyphs indicate a

1 relationship between the McCoy/Palen cultural complex and the Aztec center in
2 Mexico.

3
4 Conclusion: The indications are that the Palen/McCoy area is a major cultural
5 complex which describes and traces the origins of the Aztec peoples. Images
6 relate to the creation of human beings and to their orientation in the Cosmos.
7 Thousands of years before Galileo the Aztec peoples applied principles of
8 movement and measurement to their environment and recorded the information
9 in visual designs of geoglyphs and petroglyphs. It is a system of archaeo-
10 astronomy predating Galileo and coinciding with his principles through the Aztec
11 understanding. The Ford Dry Lake site lies in the middle of this cultural complex.
12 For that reason the Genesis industrial construction and Large Solar
13 Concentrators should not be located there, or anywhere along the I-10 Corridor,
14 in Eastern Riverside County, California. The region would be better served by
15 designation as a U.N. Cultural Heritage Site, or other means of suitable
16 recognition and protection, for all people to learn and enjoy the creation story
17 physically and culturally present in the area.

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19 8. Regarding the included video provided most of the footage from the
20 project area was acquired at the location on the ground. That footage was
21 acquired during a site survey involving CEC Staff and the project applicant in
22 January, 2010. The footage from the airplane was filmed on June 29, 2010, and
23 the location of the observed geoglyphs were verified on the ground including
24 recording the GPS location subsequent to filming from the airplane.

25
26 9. Regarding qualifications, my films on Indigenous culture are in use by
27 Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, and other top universities, and are in the collection of
28 the Smithsonian. That being said, the film follows typical journalistic protocols.
29 That includes vetting the material from multiple sources if possible. In addition to
30 Mr. Figueroa, who appears in the film, I relied on "Book of the Hopi" by Frank

1 Waters and Oswald White Bear Fredericks. I also relied on the Florentine Codex
2 and the Magliabecchi Codex.

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4 9. Regarding proximity to or geo location at the project site, all of that is
5 explicit in the video.

6
7 I, Robert Lundahl, declare as follows:

8 I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California,
9 that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and that this
10 declaration was executed at San Diego, California on July 7, 2010.

11 s/

12 _____
13 Robert Lundahl, Film Maker,

14 Photographer.

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